

Alma Public School

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Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6 Monday 3 March 2025

Visit our website: www.alma-p.schools.nsw.gov.au or download the Sentral for Parent Portal through the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Market

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = **4** weeks = Over **1** year missed

1 day per week = **8** weeks = Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au



INSIDE THIS ISSUE: From the Relieving Principal, Term 1 School Assembly Roster, What's on this week at Alma, Term 1 Calendar 2025, Assembly Superstars, Notes to be returned to school, NAPLAN, Stewart House envelopes, Attendance Matters, Community Notices,

From the Relieving Principal

Another great week of learning at Alma Public School. Student in 3-6 had their first garden lessons with Miss Caitie and there was certainly a buzz around things to come.



Swimming Carnival

Our annual K-6 swimming carnival will be held Next Wednesday. K-2 will be coming along from 10.00am-12.00pm and will be learning about water safety and competing in some structured novelty events. Our 3-6 carnival will run from 9.15am-2.30pm with races and structured activities throughout the day for all students being able to participate. Year 2 students that are 8, must be able to confidently swim 50 metres to participate in the 3-6 carnival. Students will need to bring a packed lunch and will not be able to access the canteen during the carnival. If any parents would like to help out with timekeeping, please give the office a call. Thanks to Mr Brown for all of his organisation.

Communication

We have a variety of platforms to contact teaching staff including Seesaw and Sentral. Please be mindful that teachers will not be able to check these messages during teaching time so please call the office if it is urgent. Teachers also turn off notifications at night so you can expect to receive a response when they are available the next day. Our staff meeting is held on Tuesday afternoons so teachers will be unavailable for meetings on this afternoon.

P and C Meeting

Just a reminder that our first P & C meeting will be held this evening at 5.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome to come along!

School Attendance

It's always wonderful to have our students in classrooms, ready to engage and learn. Our teachers and school staff are committed to fostering growth and opportunity. Consistently going to school has countless benefits – from learning, to creating social connections and improving wellbeing. Students are required to attend school every day, whether it's the first or last day of the term, Mondays, Fridays or days dedicated to sports carnivals, school excursions and incursions. We know that families experience a variety of challenging circumstances, and we are committed to working with you to address any barriers to regular attendance. Sometimes we will need to contact you, including on the day that your child is absent, or if you haven't notified the school with a reason for your child being away. If your contact details are out of date or if you're not sure, please contact us at the office so we can update our records and can contact you quickly when we need to.

Pulse Alive

Every year we are lucky enough to have a group of performers come to Broken Hill to run workshop and a performance with our 3-6 students. This year one of our own is a part of this program. In the coming weeks Zoe Millsteed will represent both Alma and Broken Hill when she performs in the Pulse Alive dance group. Zoe has been doing online practices to learn new routines and meeting lots of new people. Good luck Zoe!

Newsletter

Our fortnightly Newsletter will now be published on the Sentral's parent portal. You can also access the Newsletter via our website <https://alma-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>. The newsletter will no longer be emailed.

Ruby Church

Relieving Principal

Ngayi Alma, we start our week of learning by acknowledging the Wilyakali people. The Wilyakali people are the traditional owners of the land we are on today. On behalf of Alma Public School, we remember Wilyakali people from the past, present and emerging. Their country, our country and our School. We hope you have a great week of learning.

T1W6

What's on this week at Alma PS?



Monday- P&C Meeting 5:30pm in the staffroom

Tuesday- NRL talks stage 2-3

Wednesday- K-6 Swimming carnival

Friday- Induction assembly



Coming up...

Week 7 NAPLAN begins Year 3 & Year 5

Week 8 NAPLAN continues Year 3 & Year 5

PBL

We make safe choices

TERM 1 SCHOOL ASSEMBLY ROSTER

FRIDAYS 2PM KESTER HALL

WEEK 1

No School

WEEK 4

21.02.25
Student
Leadership

WEEK 7

14.03.25
No
Assembly

WEEK 10

04.04.25
1/J

WEEK 2

No School

WEEK 5

28.02.25
No
Assembly

WEEK 8

21.03.25
5/6P

WEEK 11

11.04.25
No
Assembly

WEEK 3

14.02.25
No
Assembly

WEEK 6

07.03.25
Induction
Assembly

WEEK 9

28.03.25
No
Assembly

WEEK 11

11.04.25
No
Assembly



Week 4 assembly superstars! CONGRATULATIONS

Name

Kaylan	Sanderson
Kaiden	Kennedy
Fletcher	Dart
Oasis	Picken
Chet	Jones
Kaiden	Kennedy
Kaiden	Kennedy
Oliver	Sforcina
Lincoln	Wilson
Lexie	Kemp
Oakley	Barker
Harry	McBride
Riley	Pistotnik
Kaylan	Sanderson
Charlie	Schorn
Parks	Caldwell
Daniel	David
Harper	Black
Axel	Bourke
Holly	Hodges



Super Ted Class 3/4M



NOTES TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

- Swimming Carnival permission note
- 2025 Family Information Sheet
- 2025 Permission to Publish and Consent
- Year 6 into Year 7 Expression of Interest
- Stage 3 MQ Roads permission note
- Year 6 t-shirt order form and deposit

Bus Passes

If your child/ren are taking the town bus to and from school, they require a bus pass. Below is a link to apply for a bus pass.

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-school-travel-pass>



[Apply for a school travel pass - Service NSW](#)

Introduction. The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) gives eligible school and TAFE students free or subsidised travel between home and school on NSW public transport, including trains, buses, ferries and light rail.

www.service.nsw.gov.au

Term 1 Calendar 2025

WK 6	<u>3 Mar</u> P&C Meeting	<u>4 Mar</u>	<u>5 Mar</u> School Swimming Carnival	<u>6 Mar</u>	<u>7 Mar</u> Assembly
WK 7	<u>10 Mar</u>	<u>11 Mar</u> Barrier Swimming Carnival Barrier Trials	<u>12 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>13 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>14 Mar</u> NAPLAN
WK 8	<u>17 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>18 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>19 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>20 Mar</u> NAPLAN Scripture	<u>21 Mar</u> NAPLAN Assembly
WK 9	<u>24 Mar</u> NAPLAN	<u>25 Mar</u>	<u>26 Mar</u>	<u>27 Mar</u>	<u>28 Mar</u>
WK 10	<u>31 Mar</u>	<u>1 Apr</u>	<u>2 Apr</u>	<u>3 Apr</u> Scripture	<u>4 Apr</u> School Cross Country Assembly
WK 11	<u>7 Apr</u> P&C Meeting	<u>8 Apr</u>	<u>9 Apr</u> ANZAC Day Assembly	<u>10 Apr</u> Easter Hat Parade	<u>11 Apr</u> Last day of Term

Stewart House Donations

Stewart House donation envelopes are being sent home today with this newsletter.

Stewart House is the NSW Department of Education's Charity of Choice. Since 1931, nearly a century, Stewart House has been a beacon of hope and healing for public school children in need across NSW and the ACT. Each year, 1,600 children facing difficult times stay at this beachside haven for a 12-day program focused on health, wellbeing, and fun—all at no cost to their families. Funded entirely by donations and school fundraising, the program provides everything from dental and vision checks to confidence-building activities, ensuring children receive the care and support they need to reset and thrive. Stewart House's vision is to inspire children to see beyond their present circumstances and embrace real hope and aspirations for a brighter future.

Show your support for children in need and enter for a chance to win a \$4,000 travel voucher! The draw will take place in Term 2 on Friday, 23 May 2025. Online payments are encouraged, and families can scan the QR code on the envelope to pay, record the receipt number, and return the envelope to the school office to enter the draw!



NAPLAN 2025

Information for parents and carers

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the **National protocols for test administration**.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), **NAPLAN public demonstration site**, the **Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN** and our **series of videos** where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests; however, it is not necessary for parents/carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at **NAP – Public demonstration site**.

How is my child's performance reported?

From 2023, NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. **The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 12 March 2025 and finishes on Monday 24 March 2025.** Schools will schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prepare a copy of the writing test on day 2, only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	To be completed after the writing test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.

on what has been taught in previous years of schooling. Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

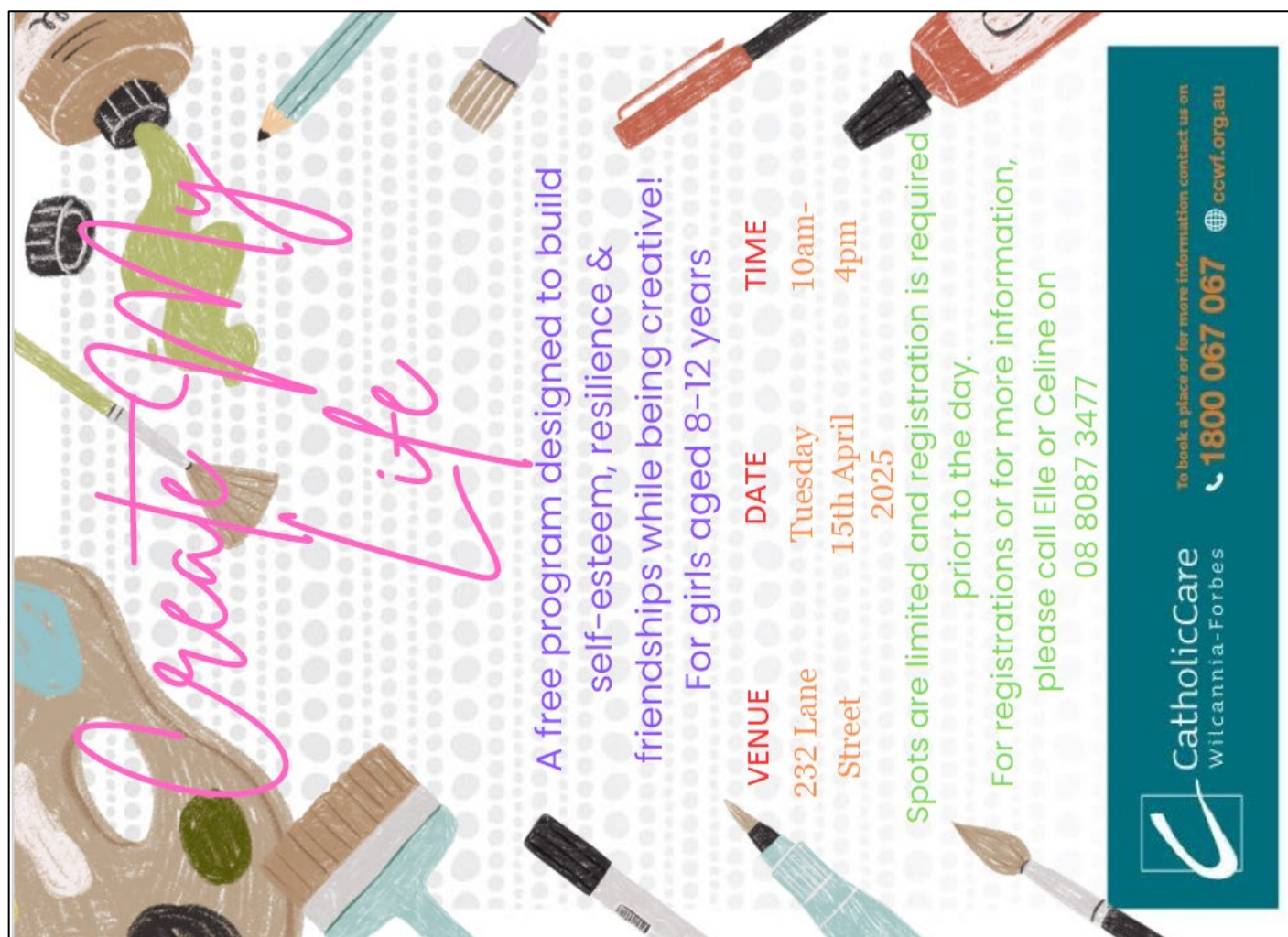
Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy





Creative Life


A free program designed to build self-esteem, resilience & friendships while being creative!
For girls aged 8-12 years

VENUE	DATE	TIME
232 Lane Street	Tuesday 15th April 2025	10am-4pm

Spots are limited and registration is required prior to the day.

For registrations or for more information, please call Elle or Celine on 08 8087 3477

CatholicCare
Wilcannia-Forbes

To book a place or for more information contact us on **1800 067 067**  ccwf.org.au

WEST BROKEN HILL FOOTBALL CLUB

2025 JUNIOR PLAYER REGISTRATION



The WFC is very excited to announce that we have secured funding to cover the registration costs of all Junior Players to our club. This includes players in;

FREE!

- U12 - born 2013 & 2014
- U14 - born 2011 & 2012
- U17 - born 2008, 2009, 2010
- Youth Girls - born 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012
- Senior players - born 2007

